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EXAMINER

ALAM, UZMA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 03/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/881,597

Applicant(s)

FAROUK, ALAMGIR

Examiner

Uzma Alam

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-18, 20-41 and 43-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-18, 20-41 and 43-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the amendment filed January 3, 2006. Claims 7, 19 and 42 are cancelled. Claims 1-6, 8-18, 20-41, and 43-49 are pending. The pending claims represent a method for presenting content based on the device description.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically taught or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 11-15, 17, 18, 20-28, 29-41 and 43-49 35 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whitledge et al. US Patent No. 6,925,595 in view of Rohrabough et al. US Patent Publication No. 2002/0091738. Whitledge et al. teaches the invention as claimed including a method for allowing low capability computers to browse the internet. Rohrabough teaches the invention as claimed including a resolution independent vector display of Internet content (see abstract).

As per claim 1, Whitledge et al. teaches a method for providing authored content, from device- independent content generated by a content author, to any of a plurality of requesting user network terminal devices, each requesting user network terminal device having means for delivering at least a portion of the authored content received, the presentation of authored content

Art Unit: 2157

so delivered being dependent on feature values of the requesting network terminal device, said method comprising the steps of:

associating one or more of the device feature values with a requesting user network terminal device in response to said requesting user network terminal device transmitting a request for the authored content (requesting a document and sending device conversion preferences; column 8, lines 1-51; column 13, lines 45-55); and

converting the device-independent content into a device-specific content adapted to said requesting user network terminal device, such that said device-specific content provides for a display on said requesting user network terminal device in a format as intended by the content author (converting document based on any conversion preferences, the site specific conversion preference corresponding to author preference, or intent; column 2, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 19-51, column 9, lines 1-11, column 11, lines 56-67; column 13, lines 60-67; column 20, lines 1-35; Table 3).

Whitledge does not teach wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values.

Rohrbaugh teaches wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values. See paragraphs 0053-0054, 0058-0059 and 0063.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the annotations of Rohrbaugh with converting the content of Whitledge. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to reduce the processing time of an intermediate device.

As per claim 2, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of specifying a feature-value set for the plurality of user network terminal devices, said feature-value set including a set of selected device features with one or more discrete feature values assigned to each said selected device feature, each said selected device feature selected from the features of the plurality of user network terminal devices in accordance with a pre-established criterion (the device conversion preference sets feature values for the device; column 6, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 36-51; ; column 20, lines 21-35).

As per claim 3, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 2 wherein said set of selected device features comprises a member of the group consisting of display size, aspect ratio, display line count, color capability, graphics capability, variable size text capability, different font capability, input capability, and input bandwidth (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 4, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 2 wherein said pre-established criterion includes a determination that a particular said selected device feature affects the manner in which the authored content is presented (the device specific and user specific preference determine how the content is presented; column 6, lines 26-42; column 20, lines 36-60).

As per claim 5, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 2 wherein said feature value set comprises discrete values assigned to selected features of a generic network terminal device

Art Unit: 2157

(the device specific conversion preference contains values assigned to select features, column 14, lines 11-39 column 20, lines 1-35).

As per claim 6, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 5 wherein said generic network terminal device comprises a set of device features selected from the display features of the plurality of user network terminal devices (column 20, lines 1-35).

As per claim 8, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of converting the device-independent content comprises the step of invoking said markup information corresponding to the device feature values associated with said requesting user network terminal device (Table 4).

As per claim 9 Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of converting the device-independent content comprises the step of removing said markup information from said device-independent content (Table 4).

As per claim 10, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

identifying that content in said authored content which requires author annotation; and
embedding meta-data into said content requiring author annotation, said meta-data based on the feature values (column 4, lines 1-35; column 10, lines 24-32; column 14, lines 29-36; column 18, lines 1-36; Table 4).

As per claim 11, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said requesting user network terminal device comprises at least one of a wireless telephone and a personal digital assistant (column 2, lines 51-64).

As per claim 12, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of identifying said requesting user network terminal device prior to said step of associating one or more of the device feature display values (user conversion preferences are identified for the requesting user; column 8, lines 1-18; column 10, lines 24-32).

As per claim 13, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 12 wherein said step of identifying said requesting user network terminal device comprises the step of reading network terminal device information contained in said request (column 8, lines 1-18; column 10, lines 24-32).

As per claim 14, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of converting the device independent content comprises the steps of:

determining the array of display pixels available in said requesting user network terminal device from the feature values (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55);

comparing said array of display pixels with an array of image pixels corresponding to an authored content image (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55);

Art Unit: 2157

selecting said authored content image for display in said requesting user network terminal device if said array of image pixels does not exceed said array of display pixels (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55); and

suppressing said authored content image from display if said array of image pixels does exceed said array of display pixels (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55).

As per claim 17, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of converting the device independent content comprises the steps of:

determining that said authored content is marked as having a bi-axially free form characteristic (column 8, lines 36-51; column 20, lines 1-35; column 23, lines 1-55);

identifying the character count supported by a display in said requesting user network terminal device (column 8, lines 36-51; column 20, lines 1-35; column 23, lines 1-55);

sending to said requesting user network terminal device a segment of authored content, wherein the character count in said segment corresponds to said character count supported by said display (column 8, lines 36-51; column 20, lines 1-35; column 23, lines 1-55).

As per claim 18, Whitledge et al. teaches a communication system for providing authored content to any of a plurality of requesting user network terminal devices, each requesting user network terminal device having means for delivering at least a portion of the authored content received, the presentation of authored content so delivered being dependent on features of the requesting user network terminal device, said communication system comprising:

a network terminal device detector for receiving a display request from the requesting user network terminal device and providing therefrom identification of the requesting user network terminal device (requesting a document and sending device conversion preferences; column 8, lines 1-51; column 13, lines 45-55);

an origin server for receiving said display request and, in response thereto, providing device-independent content corresponding to said display request, (converting document based on any conversion preferences, the site specific conversion preference corresponding to author preference, or intent; column 2, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 19-51, column 9, lines 1-11, column 11, lines 56-67; column 13, lines 60-67; column 20, lines 1-35; Table 3);

a transformer for associating one or more user network terminal device feature values with said requesting user network terminal device in response to receiving said user network terminal device identification from said terminal device detector, for receiving said device-independent content from said origin server, and for transforming said device-independent content into device-specific content formatted for the requesting user network terminal device (converting document based on any conversion preferences, the site specific conversion preference corresponding to author preference, or intent; column 2, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 19-51, column 9, lines 1-11, column 11, lines 56-67; column 13, lines 60-67; column 20, lines 1-35; Table 3).

Whitledge does not teach wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values.

Art Unit: 2157

Rohrbaugh teaches wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values. See paragraphs 0053-0054, 0058-0059 and 0063.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the annotations of Rohrbaugh with converting the content of Whitledge. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to reduce the processing time of an intermediate device.

As per claim 20, Whitledge et al. teaches the communication system of claim 18 further comprising a device profile repository accessible by said network terminal device detector, said device profile repository including a feature-value set for the requesting user network terminal device, said feature-value set including a set of selected user network terminal device features with one or more discrete device feature values assigned to each said selected user network terminal device feature (the device conversion preference sets feature values for the device; column 6, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 36-51; ; column 20, lines 21-35).

As per claim 21, Whitledge et al. teaches the communication system of claim 18 further comprising a content repository accessible by said origin server, said content repository for storing annotated authored content generated by the content author whereby said origin server provides device-independent content from said annotated authored content (column 6, lines 15-31)

Art Unit: 2157

As per claim 22, Whitledge et al. teaches the communication system of claim 18 wherein each said selected user network terminal device feature is selected from the features of the plurality of requesting user network terminal devices in accordance with a pre-established criterion (the device conversion preference sets feature values for the device; column 6, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 36-51; ; column 20, lines 21-35).

As per claim 23, Whitledge et al. teaches the communication system of claim 18 wherein said set of selected device features comprises a member of the group consisting of display size, aspect ratio, display line count, color capability, graphics capability, variable size text capability, different font capability, and input capability (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 24, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 18 wherein said requesting user network terminal device comprises at least one of a wireless telephone and a personal digital assistant (column 2, lines 51-65).

As per claim 25, Whitledge et al. teaches a method of presenting content to a terminal device having particular display characteristics, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for content from the terminal device wherein said content comprises information for displaying said content in compliance with author intent; based on said request, identifying display characteristics associated with the terminal device (requesting a document and sending device conversion preferences; column 8, lines 1-51; column 13, lines 45-55);

Art Unit: 2157

converting the content into a device-dependent format compatible with said identified display characteristics; and transmitting said device-dependent formatted content to the terminal device (converting document based on any conversion preferences, the site specific conversion preference corresponding to author preference, or intent; column 2, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 19-51, column 9, lines 1-11, column 11, lines 56-67; column 13, lines 60-67; column 20, lines 1-35; Table 3).

As per claim 26, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25 wherein converting comprises the step of converting the content by interpreting metatags embedded in the content (column 4, lines 1-35; column 10, lines 24-32; column 14, lines 29-36; column 18, lines 1-36; Table 4).

As per claim 27, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25. Whitledge et al. does not teach wherein said step of converting comprises the step of converting the content into a landscape formatted display format if the terminal device has a landscape-formatted display, and converting the content into a portrait- formatted display format if the terminal device has a portrait-formatted display. Rohrbaugh teaches converting to a portrait or landscape formatted display. See paragraph 0102. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the display of the aspect ratio of Whitledge et al. with the portrait and landscape display of Rohrbaugh. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to format content specifically for a particular user device.

As per claim 28, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25. Whitledge et al. does not teach wherein said step of converting comprises the step of converting the content into a first aspect ratio if the terminal device has said first aspect ratio, and converting the content into a second aspect ratio if the terminal device has said second aspect ratio. Rohrbaugh teaches converting the content into a first aspect ratio if the terminal device has said first aspect ratio, and converting the content into a second aspect ratio if the terminal device has said second aspect ratio. See paragraph 0102. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the display of the aspect ratio of Whitledge et al. with the portrait and landscape display of Rohrbaugh. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to format content specifically for a particular user device.

As per claim 29, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25 wherein said step of converting comprises the step of converting the content into a small-sized image if the terminal device accommodates only small-sized images, and converting the content into a large-sized image if the terminal device accommodates large-sized images (column 16, lines 40-50; Table 5).

As per claim 30, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25 further comprising the step of annotating the content with meta-data to indicate the manner in which portions of the content should be represented on a plurality of different terminal devices, the terminal devices having mutually incompatible display characteristics (column 4, lines 1-35; column 10, lines 24-32; column 14, lines 29-36; column 18, lines 1-36; Table 4).

As per claim 31, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 25 wherein said step of converting comprises the step of performing a best-fit match between said display characteristics and one of a plurality of display formats (column 14, lines 11-29).

As per claim 32, Whitledge et al. teaches a method for providing device-specific content to a requesting data processing device from device-independent content generated by a content author, said method comprising steps of:

(a) identifying one or more display feature values associated with displaying content on a requesting data processing device in response to said requesting data processing device transmitting a request for the device-independent content (requesting a document and sending device conversion preferences; column 8, lines 1-51; column 13, lines 45-55); and

(b) converting the device-independent content into the device-specific content based on annotations within the device independent content and based on the one or more display feature values, (converting document based on any conversion preferences, the site specific conversion preference corresponding to author preference, or intent; column 2, lines 26-42; column 8, lines 19-51, column 9, lines 1-11, column 11, lines 56-67; column 13, lines 60-67; column 20, lines 1-35; Table 3).

Whitledge does not teach wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values.

Rohrbaugh teaches wherein said converting is based on annotation of the authored content with markup information corresponding to one or more device feature values. See paragraphs 0053-0054, 0058-0059 and 0063.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the annotations of Rohrabough with converting the content of Whitledge. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to reduce the processing time of an intermediate device.

As per claim 33, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32, wherein step (a) comprises determining a device type of the requesting data processing device, and looking up the one or more display feature values based on the device type (column 20, lines 1-35).

As per claim 34, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to a display size of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 35, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to an aspect ratio of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 36, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to a display line count of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 37, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to a color capability of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 38, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to a variable size text capability of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 39, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to a multiple font capability of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 40, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to an input capability of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 41, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein one of said one or more display feature values corresponds to an input bandwidth of the requesting data processing device (column 2, lines 26-42; Table 9).

As per claim 43, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 42 wherein said altering step comprises removing the annotations from the device-independent content (Table 9).

As per claim 44, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32, wherein said requesting data processing device comprises a wireless telephone (2, lines 51-64).

As per claim 45, Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 32 wherein step (b) comprises the steps of:

determining the array of display pixels available in said requesting user network terminal device from the feature values (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55);

comparing said array of display pixels with an array of image pixels corresponding to an authored content image (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55);

selecting said authored content image for display in said requesting user network terminal device if said array of image pixels does not exceed said array of display pixels (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55); and

suppressing said authored content image from display if said array of image pixels does exceed said array of display pixels (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55).

As per claims 15, 46, 47, 48 and 49 Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claims 1 and 46 wherein said step of converting the device independent content comprises the steps of:

determining an aspect ratio for said requesting user network terminal device from the feature values (column 8, lines 36-51; column 23, lines 1-55)

sending authored content marked with an attribute of square to said requesting user network terminal device if said aspect ratio is square (column 8, lines 35-51; column 23, lines 1-55).

Whitledge et al. does not explicitly teach sending authored content marked with an attribute of portrait to said requesting user network terminal device if said aspect ratio is portrait; and

sending authored content marked with an attribute of landscape to said requesting user network terminal device if said aspect ratio is landscape.

Rohrbaugh teaches sending authored content marked with an attribute of portrait to said requesting user network terminal device if said aspect ratio is portrait (paragraph 0102); and

sending authored content marked with an attribute of landscape to said requesting user network terminal device if said aspect ratio is landscape (paragraph 0102).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the display of the aspect ratio of Whitledge et al. with the portrait and landscape display of Rohrbaugh. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to format content specifically for a particular user device.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whitledge et al. US Patent No. 6,925,595 in view of Rohrbaugh US Patent Publication No. 2002/0091738 in further view of Lo et al. US Patent No. 6,523,040. Lo teaches the invention as claimed including displaying content to a user with specific preferences.

Whitledge et al. teaches the method of claim 1.

Whitledge et al. does not explicitly teach wherein said step of converting the device independent content comprises the steps of:

determining that said authored content is marked as having a uni-axis free form characteristic;

identifying the number of segments supported by the display in said requesting user network terminal device;

concatenating a number of rows for sending to said requesting user network terminal device if said uni-axis free form characteristic includes a list characteristic, wherein said number of rows corresponds to said number of segments supported; and

concatenating a number of columns for sending to said requesting user network terminal device if said uni-axis free form characteristic includes a column characteristic, wherein said number of columns corresponds to said number of segments supported.

Lo teaches a method comprising:

determining that said authored content is marked as having a uni-axis free form characteristic (column 6, lines 46-67; column 7, lines 1-35);

identifying the number of segments supported by the display in said requesting user network terminal device (column 6, lines 46-67; column 7, lines 1-35);

concatenating a number of rows for sending to said requesting user network terminal device if said uni-axis free form characteristic includes a list characteristic, wherein said number of rows corresponds to said number of segments supported (column 6, lines 46-67; column 7, lines 1-35); and

concatenating a number of columns for sending to said requesting user network terminal device if said uni-axis free form characteristic includes a column characteristic, wherein said

Art Unit: 2157

number of columns corresponds to said number of segments supported (column 6, lines 46-67; column 7, lines 1-35).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the viewing of Whitledge et al. with the concatenating of Lo. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this to allow the user to view the content properly.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 8-18, 20-41, and 43-49 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

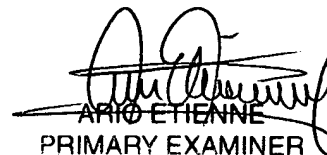
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Uzma Alam whose telephone number is (571) 272-3995. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday 5:30 AM - 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2157

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Uzma Alam
Ua
October 25, 2005



ARIO ETIENNE
PRIMARY EXAMINER